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PATENT Atty. Docket No. 203-3013 (2871)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Christopher J. Criscuolo et al.

Examiner: TBD

Serial No.:

10/680,368

Group: Art Unit TBD

Filed:

October 6, 2003

Dated: May 19, 2004

For:

BALLOON DISSECTOR WITH CANNULA

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicant(s) duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the foreign reference items are enclosed.

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that the references are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of these particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 19-2004.

Dated: May 19, 2004

Jennifer Ruente

The filing of this information disclosure statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

- [] This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application.
- [] This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in
  - 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application.
- [X] To the best of Applicant(s) knowledge, this information disclosure statement is being filed before the date of mailing of a first Office Action on the merits in connection with this case.
- [] Enclosed herewith is a certificate under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).
- [] Enclosed herewith is a petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(ii).
  - [] Enclosed by check is the petition fee of \$130.00. (37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1))
  - [] Please charge the \$130.00 petition fee to Deposit Account No. **21-0550**.
- [] Enclosed by check is the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

- [] Please charge the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 21-0550.
- which may become due under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and/or 1.17 at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment of such fee(s) to Deposit Account 21-0550. Also, in the event any extensions of time for responding are required for the pending application(s), please treat this paper as a petition to extend the time as required and charge Deposit Account No. 21-0550 therefor.

TWO (2) COPIES OF THIS SHEET ARE ENCLOSED.

The claims of the application as now presented are believed to patentably distinguish over the prior art and to be in condition for allowance.

Early and favorable consideration of the case is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana A. Brussel Reg. No.: 45,717

Attorney for Applicant(s)

Carter, DeLuca, Farrell & Schmidt, LLP 445 Broad Hollow Road Suite 225 Melville, New York 11747

Tel.: (631) 501-5700 Fax: (631) 501-3526

DAB/jjp



## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

Docket Number (Optional)

October 6, 2003

**Application Number** 

(203-3013) 2871

10/680,368

**Applicants** 

Christopher J. Criscuolo et al.

Filing Date

Group Art Number

TBD

(Use several sheets if necessary)

## **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or nor citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

Examiner

Form PTO-1449 Docket Number (Optional) Application Number (203-3013) 2871 10/680,368 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION Applicants IN AN APPLICATION Christopher J. Criscuolo et al. Group Art Number Filing Date TBD October 6, 2003 (Use several sheets if necessary) U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Document Filing Date Examiner Initial Number Date Name Class Subclass | if Appropriate 4,869,717 9/1989 Adair 12/1989 MaQuilkin et al. 4,888,000 4,917,668 4/1990 Haindl 4,931,042 6/1990 Holmes et al. 4,955,895 9/1990 Sugiyama et al. 5,002,557 3/1991 Hasson 4/1991 Reich et al. 5,009,643 7/1991 5,030,206 Lander et al. 7/1991 Rosenbluth et al. 5,030,227 5,074,871 12/1991 Groshong 3/1992 Fleischhacker et al. 5,098,392 4/1992 Shichman 5,104,383 5,116,318 5/1992 Hillstead 5/1992 Eberbach 5,116,357 5,122,122 6/1992 Allgood 5,122,155 6/1992 **Eberbach** 5,137,512 8/1992 Burns et al. Danforth et al. 8/1992 5,141,494 8/1992 **Eberbach** 5,141,515 9/1992 Euteneuer et al. 5,147,302 9/1992 5,147,316 Castillenti 5,147,374 9/1992 Fernandez Examiner Date Considered

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		Christopher J. Criscuolo et al.						
			Filing Date	Group Art Number				
(Use several sheets if necessary)		October 6, 2003		TBD				
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		EP 480,653	15/4/92	EP				
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Examiner	Date Considered
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or nor citation is in conformance citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with	0 /